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1827

National republican party, Ohio.

PROCEEDINGS,

AND

A D D R E S S

OF THE

CONVENTION OF DELEGATES,

That met at Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 28, 1827,

TO NOMINATE

A TICKET OF ELECTORS

FAVORABLE TO THE REELECTION OF JOHN QUINCY ADAMS,

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

TO BE SUPPORTED AT THE ELECTORAL ELECTION OF 1828.

PRINTED BY P. H. OLWSTED.

1827.

Gift

Ernest J. Wesson

Oct. 20, 1922

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ADMINISTRATION CONVENTION.

FRIDAY, Dec. 28, 1827.

Agreeably to previous arrangement, Delegates favourable to the re-election of JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, to the office of President of the United States, met at the Court House in Columbus, for the purpose of forming an Electoral ticket, to be supported by the friends of the present administration, in the state of Ohio, at the approaching Presidential election. Upon calling the list of counties, Delegates appeared from the following counties, viz:

DELEGATES PRESENT.

From the county of Adams—James Rogers, Joseph Riggs.

Athens—Henry Bartlett, John Brown, 2d, Daniel Stewart, Calvary Morris.

Ashtabula—Q. F. Atkins.

Butler—Joel Collins, James Heaton, William D. Jones.

Belmont—William M'Neely, Henry Howard, William B. Hubbard, James Wier.

Brown—Nathaniel Beasley.

Clermont—Thomas Gatch.

Champaign—Edward L. Morgan, Benjamin Chaney, Samuel M'Cord, John Dougherty, James Dallas, A. R. Caldwell.

Clinton—Nathan Linton, Eli Gaskill, Richard Fallis.

Coshocton—Wm. Carhartt, Samuel Lee, James Robinson.

Columbiana—Elderkin Potter, De Lorma Brooks, Albert G. Richardson.

Cuyahoga—Reuben Wood, Alfred Kelly.

Clark—John Dougherty, Charles P. Anthony, James Foley, Samuel Lafferty, Robert Turner, Stephen Kitchen.

Crawford—Joseph Chaffee, Wm. Walker.

Delaware—Wm. S. Drake, Charles Carpenter, Leonard H. Cowles.

Dark—John Armstrong, Joel Wood.

Franklin—Gustavus Swan, Aurora Buttles.

Fayette—Jesse Millikan, James Stewart, Thomas M'Garraugh, Henry Core.

Fairfield—Thomas Ewing, John Leist, Jacob Rush, Jacob Claypool, William Trimble, John Coffman, George Beery, William Coulston, John Creed.

Green—James Galloway, Jun. Robert Dobbins, Robert Gowdy, Wm. Elsbery.

Guernsey—Thomas Hannah, Robert B. Moore, William Skinner, Wm. W. Tracy, James M. Bell.

Geauga—Samuel Wheeler, Charles C. Paine, Solomon Kingsbery.

Hamilton—Charles Hammond, Samuel W. Davies, Daniel Gano, John Matson, Patrick Smith, Elnathan Kemper, Wm. Carey, Bellamy Storer, N. G. Pendleton, Charles G. Swain, Nathaniel Crookshank, Wm. Barnes, Jarvis Kibby, David K. Este, Septimus Hazen, Henry Starr, Wm H. Harrison, Jr. Daniel I. Caswell, Charles Fox.

Highland—Joseph Swearingen, George W. Barrere.

Licking—Robert Davidson, Chancey Humphrey, A. H. Caffee.

Lorain—Reuben Wood, Josiah Harris, Eliphalet Reddington.

Lawrence—Elijah Frampton.

Logan—Samuel Newell, Alexander Long, Daniel M. Workman, Noan Z. M'Culloch, Robert Patterson, Jacob R. Hall.

Montgomery—Alexander Grimes, John Stump, Stephen Fales, Geo. B. Holt.

Miami—John Johnson, Asa Coleman, Isaac Hendershot, Martin Simpson, Zachariah Reily.

Harrison—William Tingley, Horace Belknap.

Huron—Moses C. Sanders, David Campbell.

Hocking—Joseph Westenhaver, Amos G. Bright.

Jefferson—John Andrews.

Jackson—A. M. Faulkner.

Knox—Samuel Mott, James Miller, James H. Patterson, William Bevans, Hosmer Curtis, Jacob Houck.

Madison—Philip Lewis, Joseph M'Elfish, John B. Croney, Joseph Chrisman, Stephen Moore, Aquilla Toland, John W. Simpkins, James Burnham, Reuben P. Mann.

Muskingum—Joseph Springer, George W. Cass, Matthew Gillispie, Elmus Wheaton, William H. Moore.

Monroe—Thomas Weston.

Morgan—P. B. Johnson, R. A. Pinkerton, Edwin Corner.

Medina—James Moore.

Meigs—Andrew Donnelly.

Mercer—Joel Wood.

Marion—Eber Baker, Charles L. Bolt.

Preble—David F. Heaton, J. M. U. M'Nutt, John G. Jameson, Elisha Egbert, James Dennison.

Pike—Eskridge Hall, William Blackstone.

Pickaway—John Barr, Samuel Lybrand, Guy W. Doan, Edward Williams, Peter Parcels, Isaac Radcliffe, John Cochran, Samuel S. Denny, William B. Thrall, B. Z. B. Doddridge.

Portage—L. V. Bierce.

Perry—John Combs, William P. Darst, Peter Odlin.

Ross—Duncan M'Arthur, Abraham Claypool, George Renick, David Crouse, Isaac M'Crackin, George Will, George Stanhope, Joseph Rockhold, William Brown.

Richland—James Heney, James Hedges.

Scioto—William Kendall.

Stark—James W. Lathrop, John Augustine.

Shelby—William Fielding.

Seneca—Agreen Ingraham, Josiah Hedges.

Sandusky—Samuel M. Lockwood.

Tuscarawas—James Patrick, Boaz M. Atherton, Samuel Dunlap.

Trumbull—Simon Perkins, Rufus P. Spaulding.

Union—Reuben P. Mann, Amos A. Williams.

Vanwert and Mercer—Joel Wood.

Warren—Jeremiah Morrow, George J. Smith, William A. Camron
John Hopkins, Thomas Corwin.

Washington—David Putnam, Arius Nye, William R. Putnam.

Wayne—Cyrus Spink, Thomas M'Millan.

Wood and Hancock—Thomas W. Powell, Thomas R. M'Knight.

The Convention, on motion, proceeded to the appointment of a Chairman, when JEREMIAH MORROW, Esq. of Warren county, was unanimously chosen: Whereupon, Mr Morrow took the chair; and on motion, *Wm. Doherty*, of Franklin county, and *Thomas Corwin*, of Warren county, were appointed Secretaries.

On motion of General M'Arthur, of Ross county, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of sixteen members be appointed by the Chairman, to prepare and report an Address and Resolutions, touching the object of this Convention.

Agreeably to which resolution, the Chairman announced the following gentlemen as composing said committee, viz:

Duncan M'Arthur, Charles Hammond, Thomas Ewing, Samuel Wheeler, Elderkin Potter, James Patrick, Gustavus Swan, William R. Putnam, William B. Hubbard, George J. Smith, Quintus F. Atkins, Nathan Linton, James Galloway, jr. Stephen Fales, Alfred Kelly, and Charles G. Swain.

Col. James Robinson, of Coshocton county, offered a resolution, which, on motion of Mr Powell, of Wood county, and Mr Curtis, of Knox county, was amended and then adopted, as follows:

Resolved, That a committee, consisting of fourteen Delegates, one from each Congressional District, be appointed to receive from the Delegation of each Congressional District, the nomination of a suitable candidate for Elector; and should no nomination be made by the Delegates, that said committee nominate such candidate or candidates to this meeting; and further, that they shall nominate the two additional Electors to which this State is entitled.

On motion of Mr Kelley, the Chairman was authorized to appoint the last mentioned committee: Whereupon, the Chairman appointed the following gentlemen to compose the same, to wit:

From the 8th Congressional District,

1st do. do.

2d do. do.

Col. James Robinson.

Thomas Gatch.

James Heaton.

3d	do.	do.	John Johnston.
4th	do.	do.	Charles Anthony.
5th	do.	do.	Nathaniel Beasley.
6th	do.	do.	John Barr.
7th	do.	do.	Henry Bartlett.
9th	do.	do.	William H. Moore.
10th	do.	do.	William Skinner.
11th	do.	do.	William Tingley.
12th	do.	do.	Thomas M'Millan.
13th	do.	do.	Simon Perkins.
14th	do.	do.	Reuben Wood.

Whereupon, on motion, the Convention adjourned until four o'clock, this evening.

FOUR O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Convention again assembled, when Gen. D. M'Arthur, from the committee appointed for that purpose, reported a Preamble, Resolutions and Address, which were read, and the Resolutions Preamble and Address were severally considered, and unanimously adopted, as follows:

WHEREAS this Convention has been called into existence and organized for the purpose of nominating a Ticket of Electors favorable to the re-election of *John Quincy Adams*, as President of the United States, to be supported at the Electoral Election of November, 1828, in the State of Ohio; and whereas it is considered proper that this Convention should express an opinion upon matters of public policy, connected with the present administration of the National Government: Therefore,

Resolved, As the sense of this Convention, That the present Administration have prudently and wisely pursued the policy of their predecessors, both with respect to our domestic and foreign relations; and that the general prosperity of the nation is evidence of the correctness and wisdom of their measures.

Resolved, That it is equally unwise and unjust to change the public functionaries of Government, upon the ground of personal preference alone; unwise, because it endangers the public good, without any equivalent correspondent advantage; unjust, because it reflects censure upon the conduct of public men, without foundation, and thus destroys the strongest incentive to patriotic action.

Resolved, That this Convention entertain a high sense of the integrity, talents and patriotism, of *John Quincy Adams*, President of the United States, and are firmly persuaded that his re-election as President, will tend to promote the general interests of the whole Union.

Resolved, That this Convention regard the charge urged against the President and Secretary of State, of a corrupt coalition, by which one

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was elected President and the other placed in the Cabinet, as a scandalous imputation upon our country and institutions, alike unsupported by evidence, unworthy of belief, and discreditable to all who give it countenance.

Resolved, That this Convention entertain the highest respect for the just views of our national policy explained and recommended in the late Report of the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, upon the subject of a National Tariff; and hereby express an earnest hope, that our members of Congress will omit no exertions to obtain legislative protection for the objects recommended in said Report.

ADDRESS.

FELLOW-CITIZENS:—As we have assembled together for the purpose of consultation, upon public concerns, it seems proper that the grounds upon which we have proceeded, as well as the result of our deliberations, should be laid before you.

Previous to the achievement of our independence and the establishment of our free institutions, the history of nations had exhibited little but a recapitulation of the follies and the crimes of men, committed against each other, in a contest between the oppressor and the oppressed. But when we took a place amongst the nations of the world, it was hoped that man would exhibit a more just and rational character, and that we should present an example at once to be admired and imitated. It was believed that by referring the authority of all government to its legitimate source, in the people to be governed; by proscribing all titular distinctions; by limiting the terms of executive and legislative offices to short periods; by basing them on popular election; by subjecting the military to the civil power; by securing the liberty of speech and of the press; and by inhibiting the government from assuming controul in matters of religious concern, the inherent vices of former governments were eradicated from our system. The results of these provisions, it was hoped, by most of our countrymen, would present such a state of things; that amongst us, a contest for authority would be nothing more than a laudable emulation, who should do the most public good. A very short experience disappointed this hope; and the progress of our government and history have given too much reason to fear that, like all former efforts of human wisdom, our free institutions, and the intelligence and means of happiness which they secure, contain within themselves the causes that must one day occasion their destruction.

At the present moment we are in peace and amity with all nations, enjoying too the confidence and respect of all. We are secure, as a people, of every blessing that reasonable men can hope to enjoy. Prosperity and plenty surround us. The hand of Government never touches us, but to promote the general good. We are advancing in wealth, improvement and general intelligence, with a rapidity heretofore un-

known. The enthusiasts of times past would have regarded what with us are facts of common occurrence, as things too visionary for rational speculation; yet are we, amongst ourselves, a divided and distracted people. Instead of cultivating mutual harmony and good will, instead of mutual respect and forbearance towards each other; instead of devotional thanks and gratitude for the blessings we enjoy, we exhibit the passions of fierce and furious combatants. We indulge the most ungenerous suspicions, we utter the most degrading accusations, we harbour doubts and jealousies, we set our minds to counteract and defeat the public measures of each other. We act as men in the pursuit of different and adverse objects, and we lose sight of the public good in the struggle for victory over one another. These are mischiefs of recent origin and of rapid growth amongst the people of Ohio. It becomes us to ascertain, if possible, their source, and the means by which they have acquired their present magnitude.

Before the Presidential canvass that preceded the last election of the National Executive, the citizens of Ohio were united in opinion upon questions of national policy. From the date of their state government they had given a steady and almost unanimous support to the administrations of Jefferson, Madison and Monroe. Their Congressional Representation and their Legislature at home, had seldom differed upon any question of general concern. When the names of several distinguished men, all of whom had been respected and esteemed for public services, were presented as candidates for the Presidency, diversity of opinion with respect to their claims and qualifications, was to be expected. It was unavoidable that heats should arise during the canvass.—But as the same object was avowed by all, and all declared their intention to promote the same measures, there was no reason to apprehend that the strife would continue after the contest was ended. Duty, the common interest, a decent respect for each other all forbade it.

The state of things that existed rendered it certain, that, whoever might be elected President, a respectable and numerous portion of the electors must be disappointed; and when the final election was cast upon the House of Representatives in Congress, there could be no doubt but that the President elect would not be the first choice of a majority of the nation. The duty of selecting that devolved upon the House of Representatives was both arduous and delicate, in respect to themselves; but in respect to the people it was less important. The division of public suffrage which prevented an election, evidenced a strong degree of confidence in the gentlemen from whom the choice was to be made. Whoever might be preferred would enter upon the duties of the office with many claims upon the public indulgence. Besides the support of his original friends, he would be justly entitled to the candid consideration of the whole country, until he should forfeit it by some act of his own.

This claim had its foundation in the circumstances of his Election, which must necessarily, after the failure to make a choice by the electors, be the result of compromise and concession. An adherence by the friends of each candidate to their original preference, would inevita

bly tend to prevent any choice, and besides the engendering of various strifes, might involve the country in unforeseen disasters. To effect the necessary compromises and make an election without the excitement of protracted balloting, were solemn duties, pressing strongly upon the patriotism of all the parties, and when effected, should have been received as the joint act of all, binding all to a liberal and magnanimous acquiescence. It was, in a departure from this plain course of correct proceeding, that our present unhappy divisions have principally originated

Mr Clay, who received the electoral vote of Ohio, was excluded from the consideration of the House, and consequently the vote of himself and his friends must be given to one of the other candidates. They gave a preference to Mr Adams, and he was elected. There were many reasons obvious to the plainest understanding, that strongly indicated the propriety of offering to Mr Clay the first station in the cabinet. The Western States, which had grown rapidly into importance, and which had deep and varied interests at stake, might justly claim that station for a western man. Mr Clay's superior pretensions and qualifications for the office were undisputed. His extensive knowledge of public affairs, and especially of western interests, made it manifest that his aid must be very desirable to any President, who entertained a good feeling for the West. His well known devotion to the protection of the domestic industry of the country, and to the extension of international facilities for commerce, by means of roads and canals, could not fail to make his appointment acceptable to the friends of those measures *all over* the country. There was a magnanimity in offering this confidential station to a recent opponent, which well became the character of Mr Adams. There was a republican self devotion in accepting it, peculiar to the whole conduct of Mr Clay. In short, there were personal proprieties and public advantages, in making this appointment, which the simplest understanding could not overlook. And, what was in its nature so proper and therefore so likely to take place, was seized upon, in a moment of excitement, and made the foundation of a most extraordinary course of proceeding. The fact, that Mr Clay and his friends gave their votes to Mr Adams, was denounced as the result of a bargain between them, and has been made the foundation, upon which the present distractions in our country are based, supported and extended. The charge was uttered so soon as it was ascertained to whom Mr Clay and his friends would give their votes; and the subsequent *taking effect*, of what was too palpable to mistake, is urged as full and conclusive evidence that the accusation is true.

We have asserted that all should have acquiesced in the election of Mr Adams, until he had, by some act or measure of his administration, evinced that he was regardless of the common good. Had the choice fallen on General Jackson, or on Mr Crawford, the path of duty would have been the same, and we, who now support Mr Adams' administration, are fully persuaded we would have accorded equal support to either of his competitors. Their supporters have unfortunately adopted a different course. Lashing themselves into fury, in the mo-

ment of disappointment, it seems to us they have forgotten their country, in their devotion to the promotion of a fellow citizen. It is not our wish to cast out any ungenerous accusations, but to proceed in a candid exposition of the events which have occasioned our present condition.

The supporters of General Jackson assumed that he was the choice of a majority of the people, because he obtained a plurality of electoral votes. They forgot that he obtained three votes in Louisiana, and the whole vote of North Carolina upon a compromise with, and through the aid of the friends of Mr Adams. They forgot that he received part of the vote of Maryland, and the whole vote of New-Jersey upon a compromise with the friends of Mr Crawford. We do not allege that these compromises were incorrect; much less that they were corrupt. We only refer to them as proof that it is at least equivocal, whether the plurality of his electoral vote, evidences that a plurality of the people then preferred him to Mr Adams.

There is evidently no correctness in the assumption that a plurality of electoral votes gives any claim to preference, when the election is brought into the House. The Constitution itself contains a decisive refutation of such a pretension. Had it been intended that a plurality of electoral votes should be at all regarded, in the decision, it would at once have been provided, that a person having a plurality of votes should be President; and the House of Representatives would not have been made agents to perform the mere ceremony of voting for President, without any discretion to prefer one candidate, or reject another. This was so understood by all. Even in the very election in question, four states, three of which are now active opponents of the administration, gave their votes to Mr Crawford, who did not receive half so many electoral votes as General Jackson. They have not been accused of corrupt motives, or of violating their duty to the people. On the contrary many of those, who gave this vote, are in close alliance with those who are loudest in their condemnation of the principle. But grounding themselves upon this plurality, the supporters of Gen. Jackson claimed that he was entitled to the Presidency, and deprived of it by corrupt and profligate means. They accordingly proclaimed him a candidate for election, in 1828, before any trial had been made of the administration to be conducted by Mr Adams; and without waiting to inquire whether the general interests would be promoted, have taken their measures to insure the election of their favorite candidate. The efforts which have been made, to effect this object, are the means that have produced the present unfortunate state of things.

It cannot be too much regretted, that an unadvised letter, written by Gen. Jackson to an indiscreet friend, who published it, gave much encouragement to the unthinking and violent of his supporters, in organizing immediately a system of measures, to promote him to the Presidency, in 1828. The sentiments elicited, by the publication of that letter, seem to have drawn the General from the more correct and patriotic course, which his own feelings first dictated, and, unfortunately for his own fame and for his country's good, have made him the chief

of a combination, who are seeking to put down an administration successfully and faithfully pursuing the footsteps of those which have preceded it. For it must be admitted that no change has been attempted, in either our foreign or domestic relations. All the public measures, previously commenced and in progress, have been assiduously prosecuted; some to a successful termination, some otherwise, and some remain undetermined.

No time was taken to test the merits of the new administration by its measures. On the contrary, it was instantly assailed, with the most violent obloquy and reproaches, by the principal presses that sustained the pretensions of Gen. Jackson. During the first session of Congress coeval with the new Executive, a systematic hostility displayed itself in both branches of that body, which was followed with increased violence amongst partizan editors. And, in August 1826, a primary assembly of the people was convened in Philadelphia, for the purpose of asserting the claims of Gen. Jackson, and proclaiming the alleged demerits of those who were at the head of the Executive Government. But it was found that distrust had not yet been sufficiently diffused through the country, and the agency of active spirits, concentrated at Washington, was still necessary to consummate their operations. At that place, during the last session of Congress, the combination was finally organized and its plan of attack concerted. Early in the last spring a systematic appeal to the people was commenced, by calling them to town and county meetings, where they were inflamed with violent speeches, and made parties to the most ungenerous and unfounded denunciations, against those who managed the affairs of the National Government, and all who gave them support. Baltimore was the first scene of action, from which the movements have extended through the state of Maryland, into Ohio, and have gradually advanced over the whole middle and part of the western states, especially over Kentucky and Ohio. This extraordinary course of proceeding, on the part of those who oppose the administration, has rendered measures of counteraction indispensable, and has forced us, in defence of what we deem sound policy and correct principles, to make corresponding exertions. In the view, then, which we have taken of the causes that have produced and inflamed the present contest, we are induced to conclude that they are attributable to the unwise and anti-patriotic proceedings of those of our countrymen who have yielded themselves too much to the influence of their feelings, and the indulgence of personal predilections, and too little to the dictates of a respectful deference for the opinions of their fellow citizens, and a proper estimation of the public functionalities of their country.

We have already noticed the considerations of propriety that called for a prompt compromise of the pretensions of the competitors for the Presidency, when the selection devolved on Congress: we have adverted too, to the prominent public reasons that required the appointment of Mr Clay to the head of the State Department. The unfounded and ungenerous accusations which have been predicated upon these natural and proper arrangements, cannot be too much reprobated. No doctrine can be more

absurd in principle, or mischievous in practice, than that a successful party must be excluded from confidence and trust, by the party that united with them to secure their success. It is based upon a meanness of suspicion that is intolerable, attributing to sordid and selfish motive, what, with much better reason, might be supposed to have proceeded from feelings of devoted patriotism. It assumes that an avowal of confidence, on one side, necessarily calls for contumely and neglect on the other, as the only means of negating the suggestion of corrupt arrangement. Thus, its first tendency is to discard from the public employment, the magnanimous spirits, who are most ready to sacrifice their private and personal preferences, upon the altar of their country's welfare.—Whether we regard the qualifications of Mr Adams for the office in question, his public experience, or the general confidence reposed in him by the country, or place all these in comparison with the same claims on the part of his principal competitor, we can see no reasons to insist that Gen. Jackson ought to have been preferred, which other minds, equally patriotic and intelligent, could not have urged in support of Mr Adams' pretensions. And, in these circumstances, to charge the election of either to improper motives, and to assail them upon that ground, would be justly reprehensible. The accusations, founded upon what took place, seems to us so alien to honorable minds, so destitute of probability, so unsupported by facts, and kept alive by such perversions of the common rules for ascertaining truth, that we cannot but consider them the monstrous conceptions of misguided and distempered understandings; in which faction has ever been engendered, and by which artful and designing men have, in all ages of the world, succeeded in deluding their well meaning and credulous countrymen.

That we are warranted in tracing the present unhappy divisions that distract us, to the causes we have assigned, may be further made manifest, by a reference to many notorious facts, that cannot and will not be controverted. We shall content ourselves by stating a few illustrations of what has occurred in our own state, and under our own observations.

In seeking for causes of dissatisfaction against the National Administration, the opposition politicians of Ohio, have evidenced an extraordinary sympathy of feeling, with those of a different section of the Union, towards whom, at other times, a totally different sentiment prevailed. These are of such an uncommon character that we can only believe those who express them sincere, by supposing that they have totally changed their principles.

They united heart and voice, in condemning the nomination of ministers to the Congress of the South American Republics, commonly called the Panama Mission. Until this measure was denounced in Congress, the whole nation had expressed a lively interest, in the success and prosperity of what were then called the Sister Republics. They were the theme of popular declamation, and subject of convivial commendation. But since the nomination of the ministers referred to, they have ceased to be in favor with the opposition at home. They are no longer applauded or toasted. They are viewed with cold neg-

lect, or made the subjects of sneers and sarcasms. May we not ask, without giving cause of offence, whether any thing, but a feeling somewhat allied to faction, could produce such sudden revulsion of sentiment towards strangers, whom we had once approved, and who continued anxious to preserve our good opinions?

So, in the difficulty with England, respecting the colonial trade. Many who had stood by their own government, in evil and in good report: who had for years professed to understand and condemn the selfish policy of the British Cabinet, almost instantly shifted their ground. With them England changed her character. She became just and liberal; their own government sunk into imbecility and error.

In the commencement of his administration, Mr Adams made the executive appointments upon the rule laid down by Mr. Jefferson, as well adapted to the then existing state of things. He inquired only, "is he honest? Is he capable? Is he faithful to the Constitution?" For acting upon this principle, he was denounced as attempting to buy himself support. At a subsequent period, the Secretary of State ceased to employ, as printers of the laws, Editors, who opposed the administration, and preferred those who supported it. A clamor was instantly raised, that he used the government patronage to reward adherents, and withheld it, to punish independence of action.

The Cumberland Road, a public improvement in which the west is particularly interested, was constructed, in part, at the expense of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois; in part at the expense of the nation at large. It constituted at once a facility of intercourse and a bond of union. Thro' the influence of those, who now support Gen. Jackson for the Presidency, the means of keeping it in repair have been refused, and it is now in a state of ruinous dilapidation. Although our own politicians have not actually contributed their aid to produce these results, they have vindicated those who were principal agents in producing them, and continue to give them their support and countenance.

But, in nothing has this extraordinary waywardness of opinion been so strongly evinced, as in the conduct of Ohio opposition politicians, on the subject of protecting the national industry. During the late canvass, those who now oppose the Administration were open and loud in their protestations of devotion to the manufacturing interests, as being intimately connected with the prosperity of every other. None were so vehement in the condemnation of southern policy, and in reprobating an association with southern men. A suspicion of attachment to, or respect for Mr Crawford, who was regarded as the southern candidate, was looked upon as a most heinous political sin. Some of our best men were loudly denounced for this supposed offence. Now, we see those who condemned them, closely associated with the principal politicians of the south, courting their good opinion and earnestly inculcating their doctrines.

The effort, at the last session of Congress, to obtain some increased protection for the growth and manufacture of wool, was first opposed by many leaders of the opposition, and finally proscribed as an attempt to cast the apple of discord into the community. The exertions which

have been made, through the summer, to unite the friends of the protecting system, to collect information, and concentrate their action, have been discountenanced and assailed as factious in their origin and object. Because the friends of the Administration remained true to the principles, which determined their preference, in electing the President, the Administration itself has been openly accused of giving its support to this system of policy, for selfish and party purposes. And when, that no just reason should be given to countenance this suggestion, the President, in his annual message, omitted to press it upon Congress, leaving it to stand upon its own claims, and the statements of the appropriate department, the omission is seized upon and urged as proof of his indifference to the very interest, which it was denounced factious for him to recommend!!

Our own State Executive, still retaining the opinions which were recently professed by all, takes the occasion presented by his Address to the Legislature, at the commencement of the session, to explain his views upon this important department of domestic economy and of constitutional power; immediately the opposition condemn both the message and the officer, in such terms as have never before been applied to any Governor of Ohio. The true cause of this irritable sensitiveness is easily understood. Those who indulge it are conscious that they no longer feel, as they once felt, towards the protection of our industry. If not entirely abandoned, it has become a secondary object of their attachment; an object which they are willing to jeopardize to promote one, which is to them, in their present state of feeling, of paramount consideration. To put down the present Executive and to make Gen. Jackson President, they are willing to hazard every thing.

We deem it unnecessary to urge the deep interest which every man, in Ohio, and in the nation, should take in encouraging our own industry. It is now certain that, in times of peace among the nations of the earth, no foreign market can be found for the flour, beef, pork and other articles, which constitute the farmer's only means of wealth. This market must be created at home, by diverting a part of our labour from cultivating the soil, to manufacturing the articles necessary for our consumption. Our brethren of the South, to whom, as yet, a foreign market remains for their cotton and their rice, regard the policy we wish adopted as deeply injurious to them. And, until the difference of opinion and the exertions for predominance are at an end, sound policy forbids us to unite with them in the election of a President. They insist that what we deem our interest is adverse to theirs, and, with an open manliness that characterizes all their movements, they let us know that they will defeat us if they can. Reposing upon their own union, and relying upon their power to make a diversion amongst us, they have resolved to "*stand to their arms*," and given us notice of their resolution. Whilst we deem them in error, we have no right to impeach their motives.— But the position they have assumed renders it doubly necessary that we should be vigilant and active, more especially, as a respectable number of our fellow-citizens of Ohio have united themselves to the standard of our adversary, in the contest.

Our original motive for supporting the present Administration, was a belief that it would maintain that policy which we prefer. We could not have united in a preference of the same individual for President. Had Gen. Jackson been chosen, and had he administered the government as it has been administered, if we know ourselves, we can safely say he would have had our support. To support him now, in opposition to one whose public measures we approve, would be an act of injustice to a faithful public servant, who should not lightly be exchanged for a new one, of no superior pretensions to talents or to patriotism.

We have said nothing of the defects of character or deficiency of qualifications which it is supposed may be fairly objected against the opposing candidate. We hold it unnecessary to discuss these matters. It is sufficient for us, that the Government is now conducted upon safe principles, and that as men and as statesmen, those who conduct it are entitled to a continuance of our confidence. Did we suppose that their principal claim to support rested, not upon their own merits, but upon the incapacity and unfitness of the opposition candidate, we should not engage in their support. We hope never to press a Chief Magistrate upon the nation, whose highest recommendation is, that through him, we may accomplish the destruction of men, his equals at least, in talents, worth and public services. It is upon the broad ground that all is well, all is safe; and that, in such circumstances, change may injure, but cannot improve our condition, that we recommend the re-election of Mr Adams, as President of the United States.

If it be the object of the opposition to change the policy of the country, should they obtain the direction of its affairs, we regard their success as a momentous evil to the nation at large, and to our division of it in particular. To avert such a state of things, it is our duty to make all possible exertions. And we are persuaded that no citizen of Ohio, who believed that such a change was contemplated, would vote against the Administration. If no change of measures be contemplated, then we submit to the serious consideration of every candid man, whether individual preference alone can justify the wide waste of feeling and of character, which the opposition has produced. It is impossible to estimate how much bitterness has been thrown into society; how much estrangement has been created amongst friends; how much public usefulness has been cast into perverted courses; what heats, strifes and demoralizing doctrines, have been diffused into the public mind, by the contest. And can this be allowed and countenanced, for no better cause, than that the friends of Gen. Jackson are determined to make him President? However strongly a regard for the public interest should impel us to oppose his success, in the apprehension that a change of policy would follow, higher and stronger motives require us to defeat the object, if it be his personal promotion alone. If such a claim, aided by the means that have been employed in this instance, be once permitted to succeed, the hopes of our country are gone forever. The prize is too high not to be sought, at every election, by some bold and adventurous spirit, around whom the possibility of success cannot fail to rally a formidable host. It must be a rare occurrence if any Administration is

not obnoxious to as much just censure as the present one. Few can expect to conduct the Government under more prosperous circumstances. It can seldom happen that better talent, or integrity more unquestionable, will be called to administer it. If, with all these advantages, it can be prostrated in a contest for individual preference, no bad man, of moderate capacity, need despair of effecting its destruction. A succession of assaults upon the Executive department, the outs banded together to put down the inns, may be expected, until the people, wearied with violent, unmeaning and malignant contests, shall be glad to take refuge and obtain peace in the calm of despotism. So all republics have terminated. Ambitious, rather than wicked men, created factions; factions introduced distractions, distrust and animosities; liberty became worthless and irksome, and was thrown away as a delusive cheat and paltry bauble. The defeat of the present combination cannot but discourage, for a long period of time, others of a similar character. Hence, whatever of interest or of patriotism usually stimulate men to exertion, in a public cause, unite in demanding of us an untiring and unwavering activity upon the present occasion. The duration of our institutions may depend upon the efforts of a single man; and none can know that his individual remissness may not be the occasion of his country's ruin. We therefore call upon every citizen to perform the great duties which his connection with our free institutions imposes upon him: reminding all that labour and watchfulness are the conditions, by which every good, in this world, is acquired and retained.



Col. Robinson, from the Committee on the subject of nominating candidates for Electors, &c. reported as follows:

The Committee appointed to report to the Convention the names of certain persons to be supported as candidates for Electors, at the next election of Electors, who would vote for John Q. Adams, President of the United States, have had that subject under consideration, and ask leave respectfully to REPORT: That they would recommend to this Convention the names of *Jeremiah Morrow*, of Warren county, and *Peter Hitchcock* of Geauga county, and

For the 1st District, *William Ruffin*, of Hamilton county.

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| 2d | do. | <i>James M'Bride</i> , of Butler county. |
| 3d | do. | <i>Joseph C. Hawkins</i> , of Preble county. |
| 4th | do. | <i>Benjamin Whiteman</i> , of Green county. |
| 5th | do. | <i>John Smith</i> , of Highland county. |
| 6th | do. | <i>Duncan M'Arthur</i> , of Ross county. |
| 7th | do. | <i>William Kendall</i> , of Scioto county. |
| 8th | do. | <i>Ralph Osborn</i> , of Franklin county. |
| 9th | do. | <i>Isaac Van Horn</i> , of Muskingum county. |
| 10th | do. | <i>John Patterson</i> , of Belmont county. |
| 11th | do. | <i>John M'Laughlin</i> , of Jefferson county. |
| 12th | do. | <i>William Fogle</i> , of Stark county. |

13th do. *Aaron Wheeler*, of Ashtabula county.

14th do. *Ebenezer Lane*, of Huron county.

The Report of the Committee was read, considered, and unanimously adopted.

On motion of William D. Jones, of Butler county, it was

Resolved, That a Committee of fourteen persons be appointed by the Chairman, to be called the Central Committee of the State of Ohio, whose duty it shall be to correspond with like Committees in other States, to fix on some fit person to be supported for Vice President of the United States; and that said Committee have power to fill any vacancy which may occur in the list of candidates for Electors.

Whereupon, the Chairman appointed a committee for these purposes, consisting of Gustavus Swan, D. K. Este, George J. Smith, George B. Holt, William R. Putnam, Samuel Wheeler, Alexander Grimes, Bellamy Storer, Thomas Ewing, John Johnston, Joel Collins, Thomas Weston, James W. Lathrop, and Thomas Gatch.

On motion of Mr Storer,

Resolved, That ten thousand copies of the proceedings of this Convention be printed, (two thousand copies of which shall be in the German language) and distributed at the expense of the Convention.

On motion of S. W. Davies, of Hamilton county,

Resolved, That the printers of newspapers throughout the State, be respectfully requested to publish the proceedings of this Convention.

The Convention then on motion adjourned.

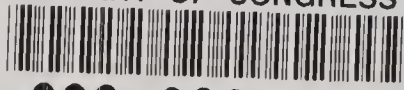
JEREMIAH MORROW *Chairman*.

WILLIAM DOHERTY, }
THOMAS CORWIN, } *Secretaries*.



NOTE—Every organized county in the State was represented in the Convention, except two—the other counties, not represented, are unorganized and contain few inhabitants.

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